

August 25, 1943

Dear Schilz,

Believe me I haven't forgotten about you. In fact, I think of you so often particularly when I feel the need of a good gab-fest. Out of about fifty-five girls I have found only two with whom I care to be friendly. Those two are swell kids.

This is a pretty nice set-up but you really don't appreciate what you have at Oglethorpe. We have good living accommodations, brand new barracks and a swell dayroom. We even have hardwood floors, a juke box and a piano which every guy on the field has tried out. Our food is excellent and you know how important that is to me. As far as entertainment goes, I don't think there's anymore here than at the Fort, perhaps less. Of course, there are men but I'll bet Schilz wouldn't consider many of them. Most of the girls are men nuts and make damned fools of themselves, as you might imagine.

The runways and the planes I find the most exciting part of this place and spend most of my spare time hanging around watching the planes go up and land (me, not the planes) or getting in the way of the mechanics. When they have some time they're more than willing to show us around, take us into the planes and explain the instrument boards (in pure Greek). I've listened to about six such lectures and couldn't tell you a damned thing. I've had a crack at a Link Trainer and got a big bang out of that. The more I hang around planes, the more I get the urge to fly one--will come a day.

We have very good bowling alleys and pool tables in the same building. I'm learning to shoot pool and I'm nuts about the game. There is a super non-com club but I'd feel silly going there without a date. It's more like a night-club than anything. Mississippi is dryer than Georgia. They don't even have liquor stores down here and what sells for beer they better put back into the horse. There are ways of getting liquor, by the back door method but I don't know the



password, yet. We have two P.X.'s, one is a drygoods store and the other a soda fountain. They serve huge sundaes for a dime and wonderful malted milks for the same price and you know me, kid. The soda fountain is not as nice as the one at the Fort. There's no place to sit down so you balance your purse, purchases and sundae and end up drooling chocolate all down the front.

Oh yes, we do K.P. My second turn is just about ready to come up. Oh unhappy day! We also have P.T. every other morning and drill on alternate days.

I know you had a wonderful time on your furlough. Did you and Westy have that little binge you'd planned and what happened to Westy? I regret that you and I never got our shoes wet. Tell me some of the details.

A WAAC Captain from this section visited us the other day and discussed many of the changes that will effect us now that we are part of the Army. She said we could apply for overseas duty. You know how much I want to go but when I hear the kids from Devens discussing the training program--I dunno. They say that about 1/3 of those who take the training don't make the grade. Part of the program is long hikes, twenty-five miles or so, under full pack. That I could build up to but when it comes to jumping into water from a great height and stuff like that???? This Captain also said that airplane mechanics course would be opened to us. That sounds interesting.

By the way, I heard that Westy is again thinking of going to OC. For Pete's sake push her one way or the other and get it over with.

So much for now and write soon,

*Minter*

P.S. Almost forgot to mention that I work in Personnel in the payroll section. We work like mad from the 1st to the 15th and sit around the rest of the month. This is the sitting time and I'm going nutty from inactivity.

*Lost the envelope of your letter and don't even know if you're a Sgt or a Pvt. so excuse the title please*